

THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR.

THE CZAR URGING GREATER HASTE.
A CONVENTION CONCLUDED BETWEEN SERBIA AND RUSSIA.
The time when the Russians will cross the Danube is still the subject of general conjecture. It is supposed that they will not be ready to move before the 28th inst. There are strong indications that they will then cross between Giurgevo and Turnu—that is west of the Turkish quadrilateral. Six corps—about 144,000 men—are to operate in this direction. Russia has concluded a treaty with Serbia, enabling her to transport troops through Serbian territory. The Serbian ruler has likewise placed himself on good terms with the czar, at whose instance he is to make a show of neutrality. In Constantinople the peace party is gaining ground. Mehmed Ruchdi Pasha has even advocated peace in presence of the Sultan.

TURKS DEMANDING PEACE.
MEHMET RUCHDI PASHA PLEADS FOR PEACE IN PRESENCE OF THE SULTAN—GERMANY EXPECTED TO INTERVENE.
LONDON, Tuesday, June 19, 1877.
The Standard's correspondent at Constantinople, in a dispatch sent via Athens, says: "The peace party gains ground daily. At a council of war on Wednesday last, at which the Sultan presided, several of those present, especially Mehmed Ruchdi Pasha, strongly advocated peace. Ruchdi said it was now quite clear that Turkey could not hope for active aid from any power, and could not carry on the war single-handed. He urged that advantage should be taken of Russia's recent declaration that she does not desire conquest, and that application be at once made to some friendly power to obtain an armistice, during which peace might be arranged. He implored the Sultan to take this step. The majority of the Council were, however, against Mehmed Ruchdi, and his proposals were deferred. I am assured that the peace party looks to the German Ambassador for support, and that he does all in his power to sustain them. They gain a great advantage by Ruchdi Pasha thus publicly placing himself at their head. There must, however, be a disaster before the peace party can succeed."

AFFAIRS ON THE DANUBE.
THE EMPEROR DISMISSED WITH THE BACKWARDNESS OF THE PREPARATIONS—SIX ARMY CORPS TO CROSS ABOVE GIURGEVO—CRNAVOVA THREATENED.
VIENNA, Monday, June 18, 1877.
The crossing of the Danube will be postponed until the arrival of the Fourth and Thirteenth Army Corps at the front, which will not likely be before the 28th inst. At present the Eighth, Ninth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Corps—about 144,000 men—are concentrated between the Aluta and Giurgevo.

It is thought, "the Vienna correspondent of the Daily News" says, "ten days may elapse before all will be ready. Intelligence which arrives here points to Giurgevo and Turnu-Magurel as the most important places of interest. At the former, steam launches have already arrived, and a large steamer-train is being collected, while three corps—the Eighth, Twelfth, and Eleventh—are ready to converge on that point. On the Aluta, behind Turnu-Magurel, the Ninth Corps is in waiting, and the Thirteenth Corps is in Galatz, but will proceed westward and probably cross about Crnovo and Kalafat with the Fourth Corps. Ostentatious demonstrations are being made in the neighborhood of Braila, Rami, and Ismail, but I imagine they are merely feints."

Telegraphing from Vienna, the correspondent of The Times gives the statements current as follows: "Conflicting accounts come from Romania. Those who regard operations as imminent explain the general movement of the Russian troops during the last week as a preparatory movement for concentrating the forces which were hitherto scattered about in the cantonnements. The departure of a portion of the headquarters on the 11th inst. from Ploesti to Alexandria is regarded as a sure indication of imminent action, while the unusual precautions taken to prevent anyone from approaching the Russian lines cause to confirm this impression. One account states that all the inhabitants have been ordered to withdraw from the shore. Believers in this speedy commencement of operations actually name June 18 as the date on which the first attempt to cross the Danube will be made.

"From another source, which is usually not less well informed, it is positively stated that a fortnight or so will elapse before the Russians are ready to undertake operations along the whole line. This party, as a reason for their belief, cite the imperfect state of the preparations. Those were found so far backward on the Emperor's arrival at Ploesti that he is said to have expressed his displeasure. Despite the obstacles caused by rains, it was thought more might have been done if it had not been for want of harmony and co-operation, extending even to those occupying very high positions. The establishment of magazines close to the Danube, and the collection of bridging materials are particularly considered very backward. Since the czar's arrival fresh energy has been infused into all the preparations; but this at first was somewhat neutralized by various railway breakdowns. Those who do not believe in immediate operations explain the present great movement of troops by the supposition that the Commander-in-Chief had reasons to considerably modify his plan; and that according to the new arrangements six (216,000 men) of the eight army corps are to be concentrated on the comparatively short line between Giurgevo and Ismail, on the River Aluta. Either of the foregoing opinions is plausible, and both are founded on observation on the spot."

RETRIBUTION, Monday, June 18, 1877.
From 7 o'clock in the evening until midnight on Sunday large bodies of Russian troops of all arms were marching from Giurgevo to Slobosia, opposite this place.

EAST INDIAN MUSLIMANS DISTURBED.
LONDON, Monday, June 18, 1877.
The second edition of The Times has a Calcutta dispatch which says: "Although the Indian Muslims have hitherto shown few signs of interest in the war, it is certain that proclamations are in circulation which include a prayer only used when Islam is threatened with dire calamity and calling for help from all true believers."

SERBIA, RUSSIA, AND THE PORTE.
A TREATY CONCLUDED WITH RUSSIA, ALLOWING TROOPS TO PASS THROUGH SERBIA—FRIENDLY ASSURANCES GIVEN TO TURKEY.
LONDON, Monday, June 18, 1877.
A Pesh telegram to The Standard says: "In order to avoid ground for the intervention of Austria, Serbia will maintain armed neutrality. This has not prevented the conclusion of a treaty between Russia and Serbia enabling Russia to transfer troops through Serbia. Already 7,000 men are marching toward Gladova and Turn-Severin." Further information on the attitude of Serbia is given in a Bucharest telegram, which says: "If the purpose of Prince Milan's visit to the czar was to press for leave to participate in the war, his representations have been futile. Prince Milan has received a hint to maintain a passive attitude, being told that Serbia's self-interest will be reckoned for her good, and that her claims will not be overlooked when the day of settlement arrives."

CONSTANTINOPLE, Monday, June 18, 1877.
M. Crisovic, the Serbian agent, gave explanations to the Porte to-day respecting the visit of Prince Milan to the czar. He repeated that it was solely intended as an act of courtesy. M. Crisovic denied that the Serbian Government followed a war policy, and contradicted the report that works were pro-

ceeding at Alexinatz. He said the object of Serbia in the late war was to gain an extension of territory in Herzegovina as far as the Neretva River, but never to establish Serbian independence. The sovereignty of the Porte, said M. Crisovic, was a guarantee for the advancement of Serbia and the unity of the race, whereas Serbia, independent, would fall under the domination of Russia or Austria.

THE MONTENEGRO CONFLICT.
MANCHESTER, Monday, June 18, 1877.
A Cottage dispatch to The Guardian says it was decided a week ago at a Montenegrin council of war not to seriously oppose the repositioning of Nisic in consequence of the great loss inflicted at the Krustars, and because the relief of the town has ceased to have any significance. Owing to the increased strength of the Montenegrin artillery, should the Turkish army retire, Nisic may now be easily stormed. The Turks, by advancing into the plain of Nisic, have walked into a trap, perhaps, for should the Montenegrins block the Duga Pass the Turks will be unable to return. A lull is expected for the next few days.

AFFAIRS AT THE TURKISH CAPITAL.
THE DEPUTIES DENIED INFORMATION—PRINCE HAS SWEPT THE SULTAN.
CONSTANTINOPLE, Monday, June 18, 1877.
The United States steamer Despatch has arrived at Smyrna. Mr. Raring, Secretary of the British Legation, will leave here for London on Wednesday. Egyptian troops have left for Varna. Prince Hassan visited the Sultan on Sunday. He will join his troops on Thursday.

A body of Christian volunteers armed with Winchester rifles about to leave for the seat of war. Dervish Pasha goes to Batum to-day. The Turkish Government is expected to-day to demand that the Chamber of Deputies vote on the proposal to issue an internal loan of 5,000,000 Turkish pounds.

It is said two Russian frigates have appeared off Cape Matapan, in the Morea, Greece. It is believed Holbar Pasha will leave for the Mediterranean.

The editors and contributors of the two Turkish newspapers, *Selam* and *Osman*, have been exiled, and the publication of the papers is suspended.

LONDON, Monday, June 18, 1877.
A Reuter telegram from Constantinople says the Arabic journal *El-Jawab* having published an article attacking the Turkish Government for the dispatch of 220 tons of damaged biscuits to Trebizond, the Chamber of Deputies demanded explanations from Ruchdi Pasha, Minister of War, who, however, declined to come to the House. Other members of the Cabinet attended the sitting and remonstrated against the reductions demanded by the Chamber.

The Governor of Syria has been dismissed. Numerous charges are preferred against him.

The Chamber of Deputies today voted a total reduction of 500,000 Turkish pounds in the estimates of the various ministries.

A DECLARATION OF NEUTRALITY.
WASHINGTON, June 18.—The State Department is to-day in receipt of official information that the Government of Sweden and Norway has issued a proclamation of neutrality in the war between Russia and Turkey; and that the same has been received by the Turkish and Russian Governments, who have both declared that they will maintain the neutrality of the Baltic Sea.

WAR SCENES AND TOPICS.
A CORDON OF LIGHT AROUND IRONCLADS.
The British ironclad *Indefatigable* has cost about \$2,500,000. A Whitehead torpedo was pinned to her bottom what would become of the British interest in the *Indefatigable*. This is a question which sagacious Englishmen are now anxiously discussing. Mr. Brassey, as soon as he was on shore after his yachting cruise around the world, bluntly suggested that the article of the *Indefatigable* was a mistake, and that the torpedo was pinned to the bottom of the *Indefatigable*. His argument it was that a shot of 16 inches diameter would pierce the hull of the *Indefatigable* and would sink her. It would cost \$2,500,000 to build 100 ironclads, carrying 40 guns apiece, the ships having no special defense against torpedoes, and increased in penetrable armor, while for the same sum the Government could have 30 armored steam runs of 2,000 tons without guns; 60-gun vessels of the *Gama* type, and a number of *Thornycroft* launches. These smaller vessels would be available for service all along the line of communication to the East; they would be far more handy than the larger ships and far less liable to destruction because of their smaller number than a few massive ironclads. The *Thunderer*, *Devastator*, *Breadmouth*, and *Indefatigable*.

But the British public does not like to admit that it has been wasting money on ironclads which have to be defended by gunboats and launches. The *Indefatigable* has been condemned already as, at best, only a partial defense. What, then, is to be done? "More light," says the leading journal, *Light*, of sufficient illumination round a ship, the ship itself remaining in darkness, it reveals as at once the simplest and most effective method of defense. The *Indefatigable* is not a ship of the future, but a ship of the past. The employment of the electric light or of the ordinary means for this purpose is impossible. Yet if a sufficient amount of light is thrown upon the hull of a ship, it can be prevented from approaching within the range necessary for the launching and effective impact of the Whitehead or any similar torpedo. A very important advance has recently been made toward solving this problem of illumination at sea by an invention of Mr. John P. Harrison, of the Admiralty, in the form of a shot, for illuminating purposes, to be fired from mortars at ranges varying from 500 to 1,000 yards. The shot, which is a hollow sphere, is fired from a gun, and immediately bursts into a brilliant flame and burns for 20 or 40 minutes. Such a shot, fired from a gun, would surround a ship with an impenetrable cordon of light at any required range, and by such a device, while the vessel herself would remain in darkness, the enemy's torpedo would be exposed to become plainly discernible and any attempt to break through the cordon of light be at once detected, however dark the night.

The *Loy* torpedo-boat, which has been tested in American waters, moves under water, self-propelled by small engines, and is capable of being raised and lowered by a crane. It is the only vessel of its kind which is to be attacked by the only parts that are visible are the small rods which the steersman on land watches through his telescope. Such a vessel, equipped with a gun and carrying a few torpedoes, could easily traverse the "cordon of light."

A COMMANDER WITH A STAFF OF BOYS.
The Turkish army is virtually directed from Constantinople, where all its movements are planned, and all orders affecting military action issued by the Council of War. This council is composed of a number of generals, who are mere puppets in the hands of a few ignorant upstarts, according to whose caprice or command they vote and act. The commander-in-chief, Abdul Kerim Pasha, executes the will of this body. A correspondent of The London Times describes him as possessing military experience, and a sharp, judicious eye, but as wholly wanting in those qualities which are necessary for the successful conduct of a campaign. For Abdul Kerim's energy is not the power of rapid action. For Abdul Kerim's energy is not the power of rapid action. For Abdul Kerim's energy is not the power of rapid action.

THE RUSSIAN ARTILLERY.
The *Cologne Gazette* states that the Russian army has come into the field with guns which are in all respects equal, if not superior, in precision and force to those used by the German armies in the last French war. Their gunners have had ten years' experience of these guns. The material used is partly bronze, partly steel. At first a great number of steel barrels were obtained from Messrs. Krupp, but various experiments with bronze barrels having produced satisfactory results, the latter material only was used; so that the normal artillery equipment consists of bronze guns, the only ones being kept as a reserve. The lighter guns are all 4-pounders and 9-pounders, and the heavier ones are all 12-pounders and one-half of the foot batteries, and the heavier ones for the remaining half. Both kinds are rather heavier, both as regards the shot and the barrel, than the German guns of corresponding size. This makes them less movable, but better suited for the present war, which will chiefly consist of attacks on fortified positions. The Russian 9-pounder, which represents 45 per cent of the whole field artillery, may be regarded as a masterpiece. The artillery brigades which are to be employed exclusively in Asia are provided with

3-pounders. The batteries attached to the infantry divisions consist of 4-pounders and 9-pounders in equal proportions. The total number of the artillery divisions are mounted ones, with six 4-pounders.

THE TRUE INWARDNESS OF SCHNEIDER.
HOW HE GOT HIS APPOINTMENT—GEN. SCHURZ'S RECOMMENDATION—HOW TO MANAGE CHICAGO EDITORS—PECULIAR FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS—DEVOTION TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY—HOW SCHNEIDER WAS INDUCED TO DECLINE.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE TRIBUNE.
SIR: As to Schneider. His appointment to the Swiss mission is to be credited chiefly to The Chicago Tribune, The Inter-Ocean, and The Journal. They all united in making it a personal matter, and when secured each claimed special credit. The fact is Schneider is a sly old rogue, and he has a way of making opponents believe that he is the particular friend of each. He told Mehl secrets about the business of The Inter-Ocean, while he was extending financial aid to the latter; and to Charles Wilson he commented confidentially on the wisdom of the management of The Journal, and criticized the course of The Tribune, etc. He placed his hand pleasantly on the shoulders of all three, sniled in their faces, and talked broken English with a sweet German accent. Mehl wrote to both the President and Schurz in his behalf, and Nixon made a request of Secretary Sherman to give it his personal attention. Schurz certainly interested himself in the matter so much as to say that Mr. Schneider was a good man and would fill the place admirably. It is doubtful if Schneider loaned him money for his paper. He may have done so, if he thought Schurz would refer to him in his paper, and aid him in his ambitious schemes.

While the candidacy was being pushed, some facts not creditable to Schneider leaked out but were suppressed. When the appointment was made, Congressman Brentano, Mr. A. C. Heing, and others opened their batteries on Mr. Schneider. Brentano wrote a very saucy letter to Secretary Evans, and other enemies became very active. They placed in the hands of an intimate personal friend of the President papers to be laid before the President. They had a fancy for a large Republican majority in this city to strengthen the new Administration. Schneider refused to pay under the plea of the statute of limitations. This was for money furnished his wife and sister to pay their passage to America. The interested assailants of Schneider are members of his own family.

The men who conducted the campaign in Illinois last fall were offended by Schneider's appointment. Col. A. C. Babcock (Liberal Republican), Chairman of the State Committee, had Schneider made treasurer of the committee, and the money was deposited in the National Bank of Illinois, of which Schneider is President. One day a check for \$27, drawn by Babcock, was thrown out of the bank, and the Hon. C. B. Farwell (wealthy merchant and member of the committee) had to guarantee the check. Thereafter Farwell and Babcock supplied most of the money to run the campaign, and were their own treasurers. Since then they have been disgraced with Schneider. This is a Republican majority in this city to strengthen the new Administration. Schneider refused to pay under the plea of the statute of limitations. This was for money furnished his wife and sister to pay their passage to America. The interested assailants of Schneider are members of his own family.

The President has appointed Mr. W. Gibbs to be Register of the Land Office at Little Rock, Ark.

THE CIVIL SERVICE DOCTRINE.
EMPHATIC LETTERS FROM GEN. KEY AND PUBLIC PRINTER DEFILES—POLITICS WEIGHED AGAINST EFFICIENCY AND USEFULNESS.
WASHINGTON, June 18.—A few days ago a number of clerks who had been discharged by the recently-appointed postmaster from the post-office of one of the larger cities of the West, visited Washington to lay their grievances before Postmaster-General Key and to give some advice as to the conduct of the Administration. They represented that the new postmaster had discharged faithful and efficient clerks (themselves), and appointed inexperienced and inefficient clerks in their stead, and, moreover, that the present postmaster was not loyal to the Administration; that by appointments and other acts, as well as by words spoken, he had manifested a hostility to the Southern policy of the Administration, for which offenses they asked his removal and the appointment of some one who would appreciate their political and official devotion. The Postmaster-General informed them that he would take their papers and lay the case before the President. The following copy of an autograph letter written by Judge Key shows his decision:

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 16, 1877.
DEAR SIRS: I have seen the letter addressed to him by the clerks of the post-office at Little Rock, Ark., and have carefully considered the same. Your remarks should be carefully considered. It is not my duty to remove clerks from the post-office on account of their political opinions, but to remove them on account of their inefficiency and unfitness for the duties of the office. If you are not satisfied with the conduct of the postmaster, you may apply to the President for his removal. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
J. M. KEY, Postmaster-General.

This letter is especially significant from the fact that it was submitted to the President and had his approval. The letter is addressed to the deputation of discharged clerks from the Pittsburgh Post-Office, who came here recently to get reinstated if possible, and to move for the removal of the postmaster recently appointed at that place. Neither this letter nor the one recently sent to a special agent in the South, which also contained some good civil service doctrine, was written with a view to publication. In addition to these expressions concerning the civil service, the following has appeared to-day, it being a circular issued by Public Printer DeFries in response to applications for place:

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC PRINTER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., June 18, 1877.
It is now made known that since the establishment of the Government Printing Office, since that time compositors, pressmen, and bookbinders have been recruited from every part of the country for employment here. It is the policy of the Government to employ men of good character and sound mind, and to give them the opportunity to support out of their daily earnings. There are no special considerations here than can at any time be employed. It would be unjust and unfair to discharge any of these workmen merely to put others on a distant in the places, and it will not be done. As letters have been received from a great number of persons asking information as to the policy of the Government in regard to the employment of men, it is deemed best to adopt this method of informing all concerned that it cannot be had, so that the expense of coming here may be avoided. It is the policy of the Government to employ men of good character and sound mind, and to give them the opportunity to support out of their daily earnings. There are no special considerations here than can at any time be employed. It would be unjust and unfair to discharge any of these workmen merely to put others on a distant in the places, and it will not be done. As letters have been received from a great number of persons asking information as to the policy of the Government in regard to the employment of men, it is deemed best to adopt this method of informing all concerned that it cannot be had, so that the expense of coming here may be avoided. It is the policy of the Government to employ men of good character and sound mind, and to give them the opportunity to support out of their daily earnings. There are no special considerations here than can at any time be employed. 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